**Employment In Agricultural Sector**

2421. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons employed in agricultural sector for the last three years, gender-wise, year-wise, category-wise, caste/community-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether the agricultural workers are covered under the minimum wages act;

(c) if so, the details including the minimum wages of the agricultural workers for the last three years, gender-wise, year-wise, category-wise and State-wise;

(d) whether there is a national floor level minimum wage for the agricultural workers; and

(e) if so, the details for the last three years, year-wise, category-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VUAY GOEL): (a) Details about the number of male and female agricultural labourers in different States on the basis of Census conducted in 2001 by the Office of the Registrar General of India is enclosed statement—I. (see below)

(b) to (e) Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and State Governments are the appropriate Governments are the appropriate Government to fix and revise minimum wages in the scheduled employments under their respective jurisdiction. Agriculture is a scheduled employment in both Central and State sphere. The Central Government last revised the minimum wages of the agricultural workers vide Gazette Notification S.0.1085 (E) dated 11.11.1999, ranging between Rs. 67/- and Rs. 101/- per day depending upon the category and area. As regards State Governments, a statement indicating the range of the rates of minimum wages for agricultural workers for the last three years is enclosed as Statement-ll (See below). Since the Minimum Wages Act does not discriminate between male and female workers, the female workers get the same wages as men. Separate data for men and women are not maintained.

In order to reduce the disparity in the minimum wages across the States, Central Government mooted the concept of national Floor Level Wage in 1996 and fixed it at Rs. 35/- per day based on the recommendations of National Commission on Rural Labour (1991) and subsequent increase in the price level. The Floor level wages was raised to Rs. 40/- in August, 1998, Rs. 45/- in December, 1999 and Rs. 50/- per day w.e.f. 1.9.2002. The Central Government has been urging the State Governments to ensure that in none of the schedule employments, the minimum wage is below the national floor level wage.

***Statetnent-I***

*Number of agricultural labourers in different States as per the Census of India 2001*

| SI.No | State | Male | Female |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Jammu & Kashmir | 194,887 | 53,690 |
| 2. | Himachal Pradesh | 55,116 | 37,645 |
| 3. | Punjab | 1,119,558 | 379,418 |
| 4. | Chandigarh | 33 | 54 |
| 5. | Uttaranchal | 180,836 | 67,916 |
| 6. | Haryana | 712,404 | 563,739 |
| 7. | Delhi | 9613 | 3946 |
| 8. | Rajasthan | 1,038,287 | 1,490,938 |
| 9. | Uttar Pradesh | 8,329,123 | 5,275,689 |
| 10. | Bihar | 8,798,532 | 4,729,352 |
| 11. | Sikkim | 8,614 | 8,325 |
| 12. | Arunachal Pradesh | 10,097 | 8,472 |
| 13. | Nagaland | 18,141 | 15,711 |
| 14. | Manipur | 53,227 | 67,764 |
| 15. | Mizoram | 13,010 | 14,484 |
| 16. | Tripura | 163,926 | 114,408 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 90,624 | 82,351 |
| 18. | Assam | 849,434 | 440,468 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 19. | West Bengal | 5,081,540 | 2,269,448 |
| 20. | Jharkhand | 1,491,828 | 1,370,111 |
| 21. | Orissa | 2,580,522 | 2,420,553 |
| 22. | Chattisgarh | 1,219.636 | 1,799,215 |
| 23. | Madhya Pradesh | 3,485,987 | 3,894,891 |
| 24. | Gujarat | 2,404,180 | 2,583,477 |
| 25. | Daman & Diu | 321 | 966 |
| 26. | Dadar & Nagar Haveli | 5,374 | 9,369 |
| 27. | Maharashtra | 4,928,793 | 6,362,152 |
| 28. | Andhra Pradesh | 6,431,834 | 7,386,920 |
| 29. | Karnataka | 2,595,871 | 3,613,282 |
| 30. | Goa | 16,211 | 19,939 |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | — | — |
| 32. | Kerala | 1,103,317 | 550,284 |
| 33. | Tamil Nadu | 4,277,140 | 4,387,880 |
| 34. | Pondicherry | 41,990 | 30,105 |
| 35. | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 3,979 | 1,113 |

***Statment-ll***

*Details regarding range of the rates of minimum wages of the agricultural unskilled workers from 2000-2002*

| SI. No. | States/UTs | 2000 (in Rs.) per day | 2001 (in Rs.) per day | 2002 (in Rs.) per day |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra pradesh (According to zones) | 30.00 to 36.50 | 52.00 to 55.50 (According to zones) | 52.00 to 55.50 (According to zones) |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh (According to Areas) | 35.60 to 37.60 | 39.87 to 42.11 (According to Areas) | 39.87 to 42.11 (According to Areas) |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3. | Assam | 45.00* (without food, shelter and clothing)<br>38.60 (with food, shelter and clothing | 45.00* (without food, shelter and clothing)<br>38.60 (with food, shelter and clothing | 45.00* (wihtout food, shelter and clothing)<br>39.60 (with food, shelter and clothing |
| 4. | Bihar | 37,88* | 37.88* | 45.18* |
| 5. | Goa | 58.00 | 58.00 | 58.00 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 34.00 | 50.00 | 50.00 |
| 7. | Haryana | 74.30* | 74.61* | 74.61* |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 26.00 to 45.75 | 51.00 | 51.00 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmii | r 30.00 | 45.00 | 45.00 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 26.00 | 51.63 | 51.63 |
| 11. | Kerala | 30.00* (for light work)<br>40.20 (for hard work) | 30.00* (for light work)<br>40.20 (for hard work) | 30.00* (for light work)<br>40.20 (for hard work) |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 49.46* | 51.80* | 51.80* |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 39.00 to 41.00 (According to Zones) | 45.00 | 45.00 |
| 14. | Manipur | 55.00* (for Hill Areas)<br>52.00 (for other than Hill Areas) | 62.15* (for Valley Areas)<br>65.15 (for Hill Areas) | 62.15* (for Valley Areas)<br>65.15 (for Hill Areas) |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 50.00* | 50.00* | 50.00* |
| 16. | Mizoram | 70.00 | 70.00 | 84.00 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 40.00 | 45.00 | 45.00 |
| 18. | Orissa | 42.50* | 42.50* | 52.50* |
| 19. | Punjab | 69.10 | 72.38* (with meal)<br>82.08 (without meal) | 72.38* (with meal)<br>82.08 (without meal) |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 60.00 | 60.00 | 60.00 |
| 21. | Sikkim | The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 yet to be examined | | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 54.00 | 54.00 | 54.00 |
| 23. | Tripura | 40.00 | 45.00 | 45.00 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 47.00 to 49.00 | 58.00 | 58.00 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 58.90* (with meal)<br>62.10 (without meal) | 58.90* (with meal)<br>62.10 (without meal) | 58.90* (with meal)<br>62.10 (without meal) |
| 26. | Andaman & Nicobar Andaman Islands | 70.00 Andaman<br>53.00 Nicobar | 50.00 Andaman<br>75.00 Nicobar | 70.00<br>75.00 Nicobar |
| 27. | Chandigarh | 71.93 | 81.65* | 81.65* |
| 28. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 60.00* | 60.00* | 60.00* |
| 29. | Delhi | 93.00* | 99.70* | 102.60* |
| 30. | Daman & Diu | 35.00 | Not available | Not available |
| 31. | Laskhadweep | 45.00 | 46.80* | 46.80* |
| 32. | Pndicherry | | | |
| | (i) Pondicherry Resion | 20.00 to 22.00 | 20.00 to 22.00 | 45.00 to 100.00 |
| | (ii) Mahe Region | 30.00 (for light work)<br>40.20 (for hard work) | 30.00 (for light work)<br>40.20 (for hard work) | 30.00 (for light work)<br>40.20 (for hard work) |
| | (iii) Yanam Region | 19.25 to 26.25 | 19.25 to 26.25 | 19.25 to 26.25 |
| | (iv) Karaikal Region | 20.00 to 22.00 | 20.00 to 22.00 | 45.00 to 100.00 |

Note:-*lndicate the provision of variable clearness allowance with the minimum rate of wages.

**Employment in organised/unorganised sector**

2422. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employed persons, gender-wise in organised and unorganised sectors for the last three years, year-wise, category-wise and State-wise;